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TECH CENTER 1600/2900

PATENT
0032-0254P

Applicant:	Hiroyuki SHIMIZU et al.	Conf.:	7526
Appl. No.:	09/530,013	Group:	1623
Filed:	April 24, 2000	Examiner:	R. Gitomer
For:	METHOD FOR INHIBITING DEGRADATION OF NATRIURETIC PEPTIDES THROUGH USE OF SPECIALIZED CONTAINERS UPON MEASURING AND HANDLING OF SPECIMEN (AS AMENDED)		

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

November 20, 2001

Transmitted herewith is a Reply in the above-identified application.

- ☐ The enclosed document is being transmitted via the Certificate of Mailing provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.8.
- ☐ The enclosed document is being transmitted via facsimile.

	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR		PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL	9	-	20	=	0	\$18	\$0.00
INDEPENDENT	1	-	3	=	0	\$84	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> FIRST PRESENTATION OF A MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM						\$280	\$0.00
						TOTAL	\$0.00

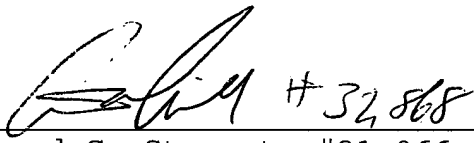
Appl. No. 09/530,013

- ☐ Petition for () month(s) extension of time pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a). \$0.00 for the extension of time.
- ☒ No fee is required.
- ☐ Check(s) in the amount of \$0.00 is(are) enclosed.
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2448 in the amount of \$0.00. This form is submitted in triplicate.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

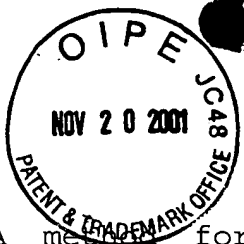
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ATTACHMENT

(Rev. 09/27/01)



ABSTRACT

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A method for inhibiting the degradation of mammalian natriuretic peptides, in particular BNP, by using containers wherein the face coming into contact with specimens are made of a material is disclosed. Said material inhibits the activation of a substance, which in turn, degrades the peptides. This method makes it possible to collect specimens for measuring natriuretic peptides stably and conveniently. Also provided is a method for measuring natriuretic peptides by using these containers.